



**Town of Berlin
Municipal Office Building
108 Shed Road**

**Berlin, VT. 05602
Regular Select Board Meetings
1st & 3rd Monday of Each Month**

**Monday, August 4, 2014
6:30 PM**

Selectboard Members: Ture Nelson, Chair; Roberta Haskin, Vice Chair; Jeremy Hansen, Secretary; Brad Towne and Pete Kelley. Present: Tom Badowski, Acting Town Administrator; Diane Isabelle, Town Treasurer. All items are unanimous unless otherwise noted.

APPROVED MINUTES

Call to Order

Called to order by Chair Ture Nelson. Towne absent.

Changes to Agenda

None.

Public Comment

None.

Treasurers Report

Auditors in office entirety of last week. Will be back at some point in next few weeks to go over their findings. All field work done.

Wanting servers installed. If installed August 15 as scheduled, will be right before meeting on 18th.

Looking at week of 18th for setting tax rate. Can also schedule for 22nd, but Reuben would not be available to help. After discussion, was decided to schedule for the 15th to have servers installed. Tax rate to be set the 20th.

Approval of Licenses, Permits, Vouchers and Applications

Haskin moved to approve licenses, permits, vouchers, and applications. Payroll warrant 3, July 30, 2014 in the amount of \$43,840.44. Warrant 4, check numbers 13347-13382 in the amount of \$34,404.95. Seconded by Hansen. Passed unanimously.

Reservation of FY '14 Funds

Isabelle brought up carry overs from last year, including \$2000 for signs that have now been purchased, community fund of \$5,652 (and will need to know if board wishes to have that carried over), PC and firearms for PD at \$3,200, and \$18,151 from highway equipment which can be carried over and put toward truck and chipper. Hansen moved to accept the previously mentioned amounts. Seconded by Haskin. Passed unanimously.

US 302 Scoping Study Committee

Bob present to talk to board about status of the study. First step was traffic study, analysis has been completed. Using 5 lane section, study concluded that would allow for cost effective bike lanes, reduce pedestrian crossing distances, reduce vehicle speed, minimal effect on service of roads. Met with VTrans with draft report. Road diet (?) is a way to reduce traffic lanes to allow for bike path. This system is the current draft plan for 302. Designed to create a roadway that is more bike and pedestrian friendly. Primary change on 302 would be to reduce through lanes to one, have bike lanes on both sides, and have turning lanes only where needed. VTrans receptive to trial run. Hansen asked how the trial would work. Bob explained that the lines would be laid but not final coat, so changes could be made. Badowski suggested having Bob be liaison to the project. Hansen moved to appoint Bob Wernicke as liaison between select board and those doing the US 302 study. Seconded by Kelley. Passed unanimously.

Norb Rhinerson

Has moved to Williamstown. Was very active in several committees and boards for town of Berlin. Resolution of Appreciation was read by Nelson to the board. Hansen moved to adopt the resolution. Seconded by Kelley. Passed unanimously.

Sewer and Cemetery Commission Vacancies

Notice to be put out about vacancies.

Wood Chipper Purchase

After tests, was decided that Mobark chipper was most liked. Priced at \$30,600. Hansen moved to purchase the Mobark chipper for \$30,600 from Essex. Seconded by Kelley. A. Lewis present, interjected that he felt his machine to be superior. Provided signed order for chipper from Lewis, claimed that Schulz had the other copy. Was informed that Schulz no longer with town. Hansen withdrew previous motion and moved to table the topic to get further information. Seconded by Haskin. Passed unanimously.

Truck/Chipper Financing

Isabelle has been working on it, but attention has been on audit so went out today. RFP sent to Community National Bank, TD Bank, Mascoma Bank, Merchant's Bank, and Northfield Savings Bank. Asked for bids for a 7 year term and for them to be received by next Monday. Did ask for up to \$200,000.

Paving Bids

One item tabled at last meeting, Badowski talked more with vendors. Question of tonnage used for base of bid. Green Mountain paving 700 tons, Johnson paving 689 tons, Pike 713 tons. Lowest price per ton from Pike at \$76/ton. Will honor pricing without getting bid for all three line items. Hansen asked if town is in position to move forward without long term plan. Badowski mentioned he spoke to Steve from Regional Planning asking if it would affect depreciation value of roads. Steve mentioned a document had been written up in 2011. Has to be found in computer system. Tim mentioned that the road does need immediate attention as it is in poor condition. Hansen moved to accept Pike's bid for additional paving at sum of \$54,180. Seconded by Kelley. Passed unanimously.

Street Name Change- Green Mountain Drive Public Hearing

Public hearing scheduled for 18th.

20 Muzzy Road Demolition Bids

Badowski explained that as part of FEMA buy out, accepted bids for demolition. Property has been signed off on. Received two bids, both from Vermont based companies. FEMA has said that bid cannot go forward until title work complete, which is in progress.

Water Supply Project

Meeting here Wednesday with Mark, laundry list of items to be accomplished. Handful of easements to get signed, those from rural development would like those in. Nelson mentioned receiving an email from Mark today about getting additional funding, which seems to be a possibility. Hansen mentioned making note about ordinance pertaining to water for the charter committee.

Hazard Mitigation Grants Muzzy Road and Slayton Ave

Badowski spent time Friday on Slayton Road project. Hazard mitigation people have everything they need but final budget. Have requested that be submitted. Miss Harris was in last week, seemed pleased with status of project.

Acting Town Administrator's Report

Solar grant funding (to match grant), possibility of making Muzzy Road demo property profitable as vacant lot. Current concern with solar project is where funding will come from to make the match. Have heard from Berlin Mall that they will be submitting application for new store, Kohl's. On 19th, DRB will be hearing application from CVMC for natural gas project.

Approval of Minute(s) of Previous Meeting(s)

Minutes from July 21 received, sent in email but emails were not received.

Round Table

Nelson putting together class 4 road outline. Planning to have draft soon for approval.

Legal, Personnel and Contract (Executive Session Anticipated)

Hansen moved to find premature general public knowledge of contract regarding chipper that is about to be discussed places board at substantial disadvantage because of the strange legal issues that could result, especially since the person who signed the contract is no longer an employee. Seconded by Kelley. Passed unanimously.

For the Select Board:

Bethany A. Towne

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